



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 663

February Session, 2008

Substitute House Bill No. 5685

House of Representatives, April 17, 2008

The Committee on Appropriations reported through REP. MERRILL of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO SCHOOLS OF VETERINARY MEDICINE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Department of
2 Higher Education shall establish a program to provide grants to assist
3 residents of the state to pursue degrees in veterinary medicine.
4 Residents shall apply for such grants at such time and in such manner
5 as the Commissioner of Higher Education prescribes. The
6 commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of
7 the general statutes, for purposes of the program.

8 (b) The program established pursuant to subsection (a) of this
9 section shall be known as the Kirklyn M. Kerr grant program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
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HED *Joint Favorable C/R*

APP

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Higher Ed., Dept.	GF - Implements the Budget	200,000	200,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None**Explanation**

The bill requires the Department of Higher Education (DHE) to establish the Kirklyn M. Kerr grant program for state residents pursuing veterinary medicine degrees.

DHE established a memorandum of agreement with the University of Connecticut that directed the University to solicit proposals from domestic veterinary medicine accredited institutions that would establish positions for guaranteed admission of qualified Connecticut residents. Iowa State University has been selected, and 5 positions were secured, which would provide guaranteed access at the cost of in-state tuition. A total of 43 Connecticut residents applied for admission in Fall 2008.

sHB 5021, the budget bill, as favorably reported by the Appropriations Committee, includes \$200,000 to fund the 5 secured positions for Connecticut residents in FY 09 and for 5 additional students to begin the program. In order to continue funding the 10 established slots in FY 10, the cost would be \$200,000.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would

continue into the future subject to inflation, and subject to the number of secured slots.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5685*****AN ACT CONCERNING AN APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO SCHOOLS OF VETERINARY MEDICINE.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Department of Higher Education to establish the Kirklyn M. Kerr grant program for state residents pursuing veterinary medicine degrees. People must apply to the higher education commissioner at the time and in the manner he prescribes. The commissioner may adopt implementing regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/11/2008)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 54 Nay 0 (03/28/2008)